THEN FORTUNES WERE QUICKLY MADE OR LOST IN BEAUMONT.

Cambling in Land That Followed the Discovery of Capt. Lucas's Gushe Spindle Top-Prairie That Jumped From \$1.75 to \$95,000 an Acre-Exciting Scenes of the Boom Days.

A few years ago a Texan with a few odd dollars to invest and nothing particular to invest in, purchased a small tract of land in the Lone Star State, a few miles from Beaumont. He might have put the money into the good timber land or ricegrowing country, which abounds there, but, of course, he couldn't get that land at \$1.75 an acre, which was the price he paid for the barren prairie property he did

This man never could explain to himself or to any one else why he bought this land, and his friends came to look upon him as a harmless egotist, who wanted to own a bit of land for the mere sake of owning it. It was hard to find any other reason, for the tract he bought wasn't even half-way decent grazing ground, although some folks used it for that purpose.

The friends of the man who had thus became a property owner, guyed him unmercifully about his estate. Every time they met him they had some sarcastio thing to say about his magnificent holdings out on the prairie, and finally it ocourred to him that may be he was a sort of chump, and he resolved to get rid of that real estate as soon as he could.

A New England Yankee with cattle raising motives and a few thousand dollars, came along and offered him \$6 an for the land. The Texan hated to rob him, but had the old-fashioned notion that everything is fair in a land deal, and besides it was such a chance to hurl back at his friends some of the things they had projected in his direction, that he closed with the Yankee at a profit of \$4.25 an acre.

He told the story to his friends between drinks and they congratulated him on his shrewdness, although it was just as hard for them to understand how anybody could take over that scrubby prairie ground at \$6 an acre, as it had been to comehend their friend's original purchase at \$1.75 an acre.

A few months later the New England Yankee sold one acre of that land back to the Texan for \$55,000 and a few days after that the Texan passed that one little acre ong to a man from New York for \$95,000. The price of that same acre climbed considerably higher before it settled down and several men made fortunes out of it. And it wasn't the only acre which did acrobatic stunts either, because shortly after that Texan got rid of his burden at

and there was a rush of men and capital into Southeastern Texas, which sent prices soaring skyward and in a few weeks made hundreds of poor men rich and not a few rich men poor.

The new oil country has crowded a heap

of history into a few brief months, some of it creditable but a great deal of it anything but creditable. It has finally settled down to business with about the usual percentage of swindling operations and the usual percentage of legitimate enterprises to be found in a new country which owes all of its prosperity to a boom over the discovery of some of the earth's hidden riches in its land, and the sudden introduction of foreign capital and hustling business men into its affairs.

There are individuals and corporations at work in the new Texas oil fields to-day trying to get the precious petroleum from the ground with the serious object of marketing it in a legitimate way, but there are also many, many others to whom the striking of a gusher or good pump well, is a matter of indifference, save for the added excitement over the country which follows the dissemination of such news.

THE OIL SPECULATION.

means to an end. It furnishes them an opportunity to acquire a little land near enough to the oil field to make it possible that oil can be found on it, form a company, advertise it extensively and then sell stock far and wide at a trifling price, which brings the chance for speculation within the reach of the poorest wage earner in the country

Texas has its full quota of swindling operators who have formed oil companies with no intention of ever going after oil, but it also has a great body of legitimate oil men, some of whom have struck oil already, and others of whom will surely strike it sconer or later, who are mar-keting their product and making money for themselves and those who have in-

for themselves and those who have invested with them.

There is no lack of money for those who are honestly drilling for oil in the neighborhood of the charmed circle on Spindle Top, and there is no lack of faith in the future among the men who are doing the drilling. The oil men who have come back here from Beaumont after studying the situation in the new field seem very confident that the supply will last for a great many years and that only a small part of the oil which is there at various depths, has yet been discovered.

has yet been discovered.
Of course the striking of oil in this remote corner of the country has wrought great changes there, but what amazes the man changes there, but what amazes the man who knew the country around Beaumont before the oil boom is the rapidity with which these changes have been made. From a quiet slow going little Texas town, the entire wealth of which was in lumber and rice growing, Beaumont has become a busy city, full of capitalists, promoters and investors. It has grown from a town of 9,000 people to a city of 30,000 with a floating population of 5,000 and scores of new buildings, banks and hotels.

Out on the prairie, about Spindle Top, the changes are even greater, for the scrubby ground which grudgingly give up a bare subsistence to the cattle that grazed on it, is dotted with the shelter frames of the drill derricks, huge storage tanks and

is dotted with the shelter frames of the drill derricks, huge storage tanks and work houses, sheds and cabins. Dozens of pipe lines run to tide water at Sabine Pass, twenty-four miles away, and Port Arthur, fourteen miles away, and by this means much of the product of the field is already being rapidly marketed in the North by means of tank steamers.

PRICES GO SDARING. Beaumont went through some very interesting experiences before all these changes were brought about. It saw days and nights of tremendous excitement, when men and women went crazy with the fever of speculation, and twenty-four hours in a day were not nearly enough for the people to finish the work they had to do.

Fortunes were made in a few minutes land speculation, and parcels of land would change ownership a score of times in a day, and with the last transfer bring a price several hundred per cent. higher than in the first sale for the day. Any man who had land could sell it in two minutes, by announcing that he had it, and whoever bought it could turn around and

sell it again without any trouble at a higher figure than he paid for it. It didn't matter where it was situated so long as it was within fifty miles of the oil fields, and no one bothered to inquire about title or to attend to any of the de-tails of transfer usually observed in real estate transactions. Hundreds of men made fortunes on a capital of a few hundred

made fortunes on a capital of a few hundred dollars, without ever having seen an oil well or caring about one.

The men who got on the scene early, with a few hundred dollars in their pockets, bought the best land with it that the natives had to offer and of course got it at a small rate. The natives couldn't know that

for months, every train that came into Beaumont was going to be loaded to the platforms with men who were willing to pay almost anything for land, and so they snatched at the first offers that they got. And \$100 an acre was big money to the native, who had never in his wildest moments figured his property as worth more than \$20 an acre.

GAMBLING IN LAND. But the early arrivals benefited by the influx of late comers. They sold their land to them and in many cases bought it back again a day or so later at several without

thousand dollars more an acre, without knowing that it was the same land they had sold once before, themselves. To turn around and sell it again at another profit was an easy matter though, so they didn't care, and so the land speculation, which was a gamble pure and simple and was promoted and kept up by men who didn't care a rap about the oil of the oil fields, save as a profitable source of excitement, went on, until of course the inevitable end of it all came, and the bottom described out of exercity in the same and the bottom described out of exercity in the same and the same and the same are same and the same and the same and the same and the same are same and the same and the same and the same are same and the same and the same are same and the same are sam

inevitable end of it all came, and the bottom dropped out of everything.

Then, of course, thousands of dollars were lost by the fellows who were last to buy and couldn't find any one to take their land off their hands. On the whole, though, Beaumont came out of the land game better than one would expect considering the heights to which the gamble went.

sidering the heights to which the gamble went.

New York men who went to Beaumont in the midst of all this excitement over land and oil, say that they never saw anything like the scenes which were to be witnessed there. One man who went to Beaumont in connection with a financial institution and had no part in the excitement saye as a spectator, told a SUN reporter the other day that nothing was more interesting than the spectacle of the Texas farmers who had for years owned all the land about Beaumont and who had let it go to the first speculators that came along.

FARMERS LOST THEIR CHANCE.

FARMERS LOST THEIR CHANCE.

This side of the picture has cosiderable pathos to it. These farmers had toiled for years, eking out a miserable existence at rice raising and cattle raising. They owned great tracts of land worth only a few dollars an acre, unless it happened to have timber on it.

lars an acre, unless it happened to have timber on it.

It was a drug on their hands and when the first of the boomers came along and finding Spindle Top and all the immediately adjoining property already in the hands of the capitalists who promoted the early drilling for oil in the region, offered what seemed fabulous prices for their land, they naturally sold it. Then for weeks and weeks they sat by and watched the value of that property go up until in some cases it brought as much as \$100,000 an acre

They were a broken-hearted lot of men and some of them will never get over the blow of having lost the only chance they ever had or are ever likely to have of making a fortune.

A great many conservative observers of A great many conservative observers of those weeks of excitement in and around Beaumont say that more money was made and lost in land speculation, than will be gained in five years in the oil business there. It certainly was a lively time, an almost everybody but the fellows who held on to the land too long profited.

And some of these men will win out yet. Many of them have already formed oil companies for the working of the land they own, most reluctantly own, it is true, and they will probably recoup themselves by

they will probably recoup themselves by subscriptions to their cheap stock if they do not by the oil on the property.

PATILLO HIGGINS'S IDEA

There isn't very much to say about Beaumont before the oil boom save what has already been said, that it was a quiet lum-ber and rice town with a few well-to-do men in it There was a man named Patillo Higgins there, though, who was a student of geology and considerable of a hustler and who thought he saw signs of oil in the

and who thought he saw signs of oil in the neighborhood

In Nacogdoches county, a hundred miles away, oil had been struck before the war, and a good quality of lubricating and illuminating oil had been found. With the drilling machinery they had then not more than the surface of the earth could be scraped through, and the deepest well went down only 324 feet.

After the war the wells were worked again, but the difficulty of getting the product to market discouraged the principal operators, and they deserted that particular field. It might be mentioned here that since the oil discoveries at Beaumont interest has been revived in the Nacogdoches field, and new wells are to be sunk there very soon. here very soon.

Despite the fact that southwestern Texas

was known to contain oil from the ex-perience of men who had been working in a neighboring county, Beaumont wouldn't take Patillo Higgins seriously. It looked upon him as a harmless crank, and it laughed er he went out on the prairie

study the ground.

But by and by Higgins got one or two men interested in the oil notion, among them one Capt. Lucas, who finally agreed to go out on a light ridge about four miles from Beaumont, known as Spindle Top, and bore into the earth at a point selected

by Higgins as promising. CAPT. LUCAS'S WELL.

Beaumont looked on this venture as a good joke, and parties would go out to in-spect the work and laugh at the workers. A few citizens were induced to take flyers in the venture though, and thus enough money was raised to continue the work, but no one, not even Lucas, had much faith in the matter, especially when after days of work they got down 1,100 feet into the bowels of the earth, and hadn't even struck the cap rock.

the bowels of the earth, and hadn't even struck the cap rock.

The cap rock is the rock which covers all oil in the earth, and when you strike that you've got oil. You may have to bore a lot more before you get through the sand under the rock or you may get it the second you get through the rock, but you're sure to get it sooner or later if you strike cap rock.

One afternoon after weeks of drilling on Spindle Top Lucas and the men knocked.

Spindle Top, Lucas and the men knocked off and went to supper. They were dis-couraged and worn by their work, and Lucas had seriously considered giving

Lucas had seriously considered giving the thing up.

Just as they were sitting down to supper there came a roar from the direction of the well, and rushing to the door the men saw a sight which filled their hearts with joy, and set them screaming with sheer happiness. From the top of the well the oil was spouting over a hundred feet in

the air.

It was coming out at the rate of 80,000 barrels a day, and forming itself into a lake at the foot of the hill. It defied all efforts to stop it and Lucas and his associates were in despair. They had hoped to keep it secret if they did strike oil, but they were not prepared to concerl a guider. they were not prepared to conceal a gusher

BOOMERS ARRIVE.

For nine days the oil gushed from the Lucas well, and on the fourth day the great lake at the foot of the hill caught fire and lighted up the country for miles around. That was the last straw.

All Texas knew then that oil had been struck at Beaumont, and the excitement began. On the ninth day the oil was controlled and the well has been working beautifully ever since.

beautifully ever since.

Investigation of the Lucas well showed that just before the men quit for supper on that memorable night the drill had entered the cap rock. The terrific pressure on the oil, thought by some to be due to salt water and by others to be due to salt water and by others to be due to gas, forced it through the rock and up

to sait water and by others to be due to gas, forced it through the rock and up the well to the surface.

The first boomers arrived at Beaumont on the afternoon of the day after the Lucas gusher was found. Every train after that brought them in, said in twenty-four hours Beaumont, quiet, peaceful Beaumont, was overrun with speculators, fortune hunters, oil men from every test of the country.

oil men from every part of the country, fakirs and swindlers

Capital poured in from everywhere, and the rush for land began. This was in January, 1991, and Beaumont, with its in January, 1991, and Beaumont, with its few hotels, was totally unprepared for the demands that were made on it.

The hotels couldn't accommodate the people, and private houses had to be opened. Of course, rates for food and lodging went shooting up in the air as Beaumont began to realize that every man of the hundreds who had descended upon it had money in his pocket, and what was

it had money in his pocket, and, what was WILD SCENES AT BEAUMONT

The following is a brief description of hat happened in Besument in those early

BRITISH MUST HAVE COMFORT

days, told by a New York man who was there throughout the entire excitement:

"The usually quiet streets of Beaumont were crowded with people and every train that came in brought hundreds more. Oil, oil, oil, was all that they talked about, and trading in land began at once. Men ONE REASON WHY THEY FIND THE BOERS SO HARD TO CATCH. Oil, oil, oil, was all that they talked about, and trading in land began at once. Men made purchases from men they had never seen before before they had been in the place ten minutes, and sold again at a big profit before they had eaten their first meal in Beaumont.

"If a man had anything to sell he rushed at the first man he came across and told him his price. Nine times out of ten the man took it. If he didn't the man with land didn't waste any time with him. He just passed along to the next man, and so

just passed along to the next man, and so

PORTUNES QUICKLY MADE.

had taken them years to save came in; and, of course, the demand for land increased. Every one wanted to buy; no one wanted

"And the companies were getting boxes

fellow came in and offered me \$16,000

"No description of those times would

"No description of those times would be complete without telling something of the way folks had to live in Beaumont during those days. Hotel room was very valuable, but you could get accommodation by paying liberally for it. But you couldn't get a thing to eat in the town unless you consented to be robbed for it.

"You had to pay a tip for every article of food you got, and a waiter wouldn't look at anything under a dollar. I've had to pay \$1 for a dinner and \$5 to a waiter to get it.

to pay s. Or to get it.

"But I will say one thing for Beaumont, During all of this excitement I never say a robbery or an assault. There were no gunfights, and no trouble of any kind, although men went around at all hours of the day and night with their pockets

STRIKE OF FOUR BROTHERS

lation.

The story of the four brothers from Chicago, is one of the most interesting of them all. They were all performers and conducted an entertainment bureau in

THE OUTLOOK.

lation, as it was regarded as morally certain that big finds of oil would soon be made on

One of the principal wells sunk on this

land was the Kelly-Kiser well, and daily people looked for a Kelly-Kiser gusher. But the Kelly-Kiser well proved a dry hole

passed and speculators are not rushing around wildly as they did a few mouths

oil fields hold out, as all experts seem to think they will, the citizens hope that it will become the manufacturing town that such cheap fuel right at hand ought to make

for all the oil companies around Beaumont

which are producing and marketing their oil, but they admit that there are scores of companies which own valueless land

and are inviting subscriptions when they have no intention now or at any time of trying to produce and market oil.

John W. Gates in Beaumont Oil? Dallas, Tex., Feb. 9 .- John W. Gates

he Steel Trust magnate of Chicago, got the Steel Trust magnate of Chicago, got into the Beaumont oil fields yesterday evening and went to Port Arthur, on the Guil coast to-day, where he was joined by Rod Oliver of Dalias, W. T. Campbell of Beaumont, J. S. Cullinan of Corsicana,

and representatives of the Hogg-Swayne syndicate. Mr. Gates has his eye on a big pipe line scheme. His visit to Texas is the result of a recent visit to Chicago of

ticular moment lost their money.

lation.

Whiskey Carried as "Loots" -Planos Taken for Sociability-Kitchener Can't Suppress the Collecting Mania, So Flying Columns Fly at 2 Miles an Hour

There are still sixty-five mobile British olumns roaming over the veldt in search of Boer commandoes, but when the list of weekly captures was found to work out it went on.

"A man came up to me on the street before I had been in town five minutes." I have a piece of land in the Bullock survey I'll sell you for a thousand dollars, he said. I didn't know what the Bullock survey was and I started to say so.

"He didn't wait to hear me, but threw the same offer at a man behind me, who had come on my train and who knew about as much about the Bullock survey as I did. The man took it without asking any questions. That night I met him and asked him if he didn't think he was foolish to buy that way. at about one Boer and a dozen head of cattle a week for each column, it was felt that something should be done to give a fillip to their mobility. They were or-dered to discard pianos, kitchen ranges and sofas from their fighting equipment It is very doubtful if any notice has been taken of the order, for the collecting habit is not easy to eradicate. A man who accompanied more than one of them can testify that the only reason why there buy that way.
"Foolish," he exclaimed. 'Say, I've seen these booms before. I sold that land for \$3,000 an hour after I bought it.' were no four-poster beds among the baggage train was that in South African farmhouses these are usually fixtures built into the wall.

"And he did. And two days later that piece of land sold for \$20,000, and goodness knows what it sold for before the smash-up, but it probably got up as high as \$50,000.

"Meantime folks poured into Beaumont. Clerks with the few hundred dollars it lad taken them years to saye came in; and. Yet it was not that these accumulations reduced a swinging pace to a crawling one, for from the first there never was any quick moving for more than a couple of days at a time. The organization of the transport made it impossible. The first of the flying columns flew at the rate of two and a half miles an hour. It might to sell except for enormous amounts.

Oil companies had been formed by the dozen and, because there wasn't any other place for them to locate, they established offices on the front porches of houses and in the barrooms of hotels. Some offices were in dry goods boxes and others right out on the curb. cover more than thirty miles in a day and perhaps make rapid dashes in emergency, but its food was always dragging along behind at two and a half mile an hour. Oxen were the chosen draught animals.

They could be depended on not to stampede under fire or in the contagious night "And the companies were getting boxes of gold by every train from subscribers to their stock and, what was more, they were spending it. Money was everywhere and the trades ran away up in the millions. "The keen fellows saw that any old land would bring a price. If they couldn't get land around the charmed circle they got it miles away from farmers, and then they hawked it on the streets and got fabulous prices for it, just because it was land. "I woke up to the thing after awhile and one day I made \$1,000 myself while I was getting dinner. I bought a piece of land for \$15,000 and while I was eating dinner a fellow came in and offered me \$16,000 panics, like mules, and they did not require forage to be carried for them to anything like the extent that horses did. But they had to be unyoked and allowed to graze for three or four hours in the middle of every day, and in the long run they always regulated the pace of the column that they were feeding. For a time they tried to split up the stores among light two-wheeled carts for the smaller columns, but that threw the commissariat organization out of gear, and so long freight wagons dragged by sixteen oxen and laden for it.
"I took it and a few days later he got
\$50,000 for it. Then a fellow held it too long
and when the smash came he couldn't get
\$100 for it.
"You description, of those times would with about five tons remained the rule.

It was the bulk of the British transport that astonished the Boers every time they saw it. The Predikant at Jacobsdaal, with the live interest in this world and the next which characterized the burghers preacher, declared when he saw the solid lumbering wagons of British stores, built seemed to carry the heaviest irongirders they would never catch anybody if hey had to drag such unwieldy carts after

With the Boers the difference is that each individual fighting man does pretty nearly everything that is necessary. His mealies and bread rusks and biltong are all of light bulk and when he cooks and shifts for himself he naturally makes them go further than the infantry soldiers do with their food. The regimental idea is that one set of men carries the rations, another issues them, still another cooks them, and the fourth lot distributes them to the converse sections whose business if to the company sections whose business it is to eat them. It is not an elastic system and it has to leave an enormous margin for waste.

There are many stories of big strikes in the oil field in Texas, and one of them is very much like the other. These strikes have all been made by men who were early on the scene, who got the land on Spindle Top as close to the Lucas gusher as possible, and who proceeded to drill for oil without wasting their time in land speculation. Figure 1 waste.

Even more amazing to the Boer eye has been the prodigal destruction of valuable stuff whenever the British thought the ocstuff whenever the British thought the oc-casion allowed them to jettison their stores with impunity. In crossing the then Orange Free State with 50,000 marching and mounted men from the western railway line to Bloem-fontein it was decided to stop sending on supplies from the base and to draw up the men on the lines of communication to join the main column. The pace was to be quickered—eighteen or twenty miles to be quickened—eighteen or twenty miles a day instead of ten or a dozen; and this army was to arrive in Bloemfontein with just enough stores to keep it alive until the railway from that point to the south was restored and more could be sent up. In the middle of the bare veldt where this

conducted an entertainment care.
Chicago.
One of them happened to be in Texas at the time of the oil discoveries, and he hastened to Beaumont. He wired the others to send on all the savings of the four, at once, and they did so without hesitation.
When he asked them if they had any instructions to give, they sent back this dedecision was taken, the stores were counted out for redistribution. It was found that their bulk was so enormous that to carry them all would mean to slacken the pace of the proposed forced march. The matter was settled by heaping together a million dollar's worth, putting some oil and explosive pharges about it and lighting a spatch:
 "Don't bother about details. You are on the ground. Play ball. Be careful on first base, but play ball. Those four brothers now own several gushers on Spindle Top, and are said to be making an enormous amount of money. They are among the most successful of all the oil operators in the new field. dollar's worth, putting some oil and ex-plosive charges about it and lighting a plosive charges about it and lighting a fuse. This was in order that the abandoned stores should not fall into the hands of the Boers. The loaded wagons blazed and smoked for days, but it was weeks before the noncombatants and Kaffirs had finished salvaging hundreds of tons of compressed horse forage, beef biscuits, jam, coffee, and the charred wagons themselves.

In spite of such periodical destructions the continual complaint of the top men in authority was of the encumbrance of the things the army had to take along with it. The man who had the business of adjusting the minimum of bulk to the maximum of marching capacity was Lord Kitch-

THE OUTLOOK.

It was in April, 1901, that the land speculating game had the bottom knocked out of it. It came about in this way. All the land about Spindle Top had been bought up and was being drilled for oil. Of course, there was much beating around for the sources of the supply of oil in what was supposed to be a huge basin under Spindle Top, and as oil indications had been found at Sour Lake, away to the northwest of Spindle Top, naturally the belief was that the main stream ran in that direction. Between Spindle Top and Sour Lake the Bullock Survey, or, as it is locally known, the Bullock League, lies, and this property was gobbled up in small sections at fabulous prices. Fortune after fortune was made on this land in Beaumont street speculation, as it was regarded as morally certain justing the minimum of bulk to the maximum of marching capacity was Lord Kitchener. De Aar Junction was the place where he tried to put his foot down. Beyond that point the railroad was less and less serviceable and mule and ox transport had the more to be depended on. His daily work as traffic manager at De Aar was to throw everything outside of what he thought bare necessities from the railroad freight wagons on to the open veldt and leave it there, no matter whether it was addressed to a Prince or a private.

to a Prince or a private.

Like smugglers trying to dodge past the customs inspector the clingers to comfort thought that Lord Kitchener's rules were all right in a general way but always found reasons why they should be exempt. Law suits have since been brought in England to settle who should suffer from his deterand was deserted, and it was agreed that a mistake had been made about the direction in which the oil stream ran.

If the Kelly-Kiser well was a dry hole, every well on the Bullock Survey must be a dry hole, it was figured, and that land which had been held at anywhere from the cone agree up in places despreed down. mination to keep down the quantity of stores the army carried if it were possible. Fashionable caterers on the order of friends of fashionable regiments sent out thous-ands of pounds worth of wines and delica-cies to officers' messes. For a while he threw them all on the veldt and with them \$50,000 an acre up in places dropped down to almost nothing. And of course the folks who happened to own it at that par-

threw them all on the veldt and with them consignments of camp beds, pajamas and much else that roused his scorn.

One day on the railroad platform at De Aar he came upon a group of sergeants keeping the closest guard over a row of cases marked "Heserved Boots". It struck him as an unusual anxiety and he had the cases opened. They were filled with Scotch whiskey, which kind-hearted comrades down at the base in Cape Town had labelled, as they believed, with safety. When Kitchener was found to be holding back even "reserved boots," the sergeant in charge of this particular consignment told his secret to the others and they made it their business to try and see that the The drilling has shot out in every direction since that time, and there are some who still hope that by deep drilling the Bullock Survey will prove a good oil field. But the day of inflated prices for land has Aiready there is a movement to have ongress appropriate money to deepen he channel of the Neches River so as to enable tank steamers to get right up to the city from Sabine Lake. Oil men here say that there is money

told his secret to the others and they made it their business to try and see that the "boots" were not thoughtlessly lost altogether or sent to the wrong people.

The Army Medical Department had approved a special brand of West Indian run as good to give the men at night twice or thrice a week. The sugar in it was sustaining and it was food as well as stimulant. Taken before sleeping when the African night temperature sometimes ulant. Taken before sleeping when African night temperature sometimes drops forty degrees in a few hours, it was said to strengthen the stomach against fever. But it was another of the things fever thought might go. It is fever. But it was another of the things that Kitchener thought might go. It is true that he let it get up as far as the fighting columns, but when he spread out his divisions for actual campaigning he left his convoy of rum a few miles away from anybody and Delarey swooped down on it. He took the whole 200 wagons. Testimonials to the quality of this rum were forthcoming from the inhabitants of most of the Boer towns that the British afterward occupied. The last news of it came three months afterward on the entry into Kroonstad, when the weary marcher Kroonstad, when the weary marcher learned to his dismay that the last gallon jars of it had been dashed down into the rocky river bed the night before by the

Boers.

But it has been no use trying to keep down encumbrances even by throwing them off railway trains. The collecting habit could always be gratified by gather-Bank Robbers Get \$5,000 in Georgia. ATLANTA, Ga., Feb. 9.-The safe of the Lemon Banking Company at Atworth \$5,000 in gold and currency, a \$5,000 Georgia State bond and a large amount of stock certificates were taken. Between \$45,000 and \$50,000 in notes and stock certificates and bonds were mutilated. The robbers made four blasts to reach the money. ing clocks and pictures and pianos. Against this snall's pace and the absence of military achievements there remains the fact that there is not a single recorded case of a man dying from hunger anywhere in the war. And for the last eigh-

teen months the greater proportion of the Boers have kept in good health on British supplies which are still forthcoming. The commisariat business crowded out the effective use of firearms or rather, one side made a specialty of the wholesale provision business and the other of shoot-ing straight.

FOREIGN RAPID-FIRE GUNS. New French, German and Russian Field Pieces Compared.

In view of the fact that a board of officers s now at work at the proving grounds Sandy Hook, N J., testing various models of field guns with a view to adopt the best for our service, it may be of interest to compare the latest models of field guns now in use by the three great European nations, Germany, France and Russia. The models being tested at Sandy Hook

are the Vickers Sons and Maxim, the Cockerill-Nordenfeldt, the Ehrhardt, the American Ordnance Company, the Driggs-Seabury Gun Company, the Army Ordnance long and short recoil, and finally the Lewis gun, the device of Capt. I. N. Lewis, A tillery Corps. The Armstrong, Krupp and Creusot guns are not represented.

Gen. Sacharov, chief of the General Staff of the Russian Army, while attending the French Army manœuvres of 1901, spoke of the excellent qualities of the new French gun, at the same time referring to the new German gun as being already obsolete. His remarks naturally attracted considerable attention and led the military authorities to estimate the relative values of the field pieces of the three most prominent nations very carefully.

The German, French and Russian field guns have, respectively, the following characteristics: Date of construction, 1896, 1897 and 1900; calibre, 7.7, 7.5 and 7.6 cm. (3.03, 2.95 and 2.99 inches); weight, 1,720, 1,800 and 1,804 kg. (3,784, 3,960 and 3,969 pounds); number of shots per minute, 6, 18 and 16; muzzle velocity, 456, 510 and 610 metre-seconds (1,609, 1,673 and 2,001 footseconds); carriage, rigid, upper and lower, proof lower, upper and lower; recoil check, spade and rope wheel brake, spade and glycerine brake, spade and hydraulic brake.

The date of construction is, of course, in a general way an indication of the present rolling of the graph but is not necessarily

value of the gun, but is not necessarily

It depends upon the time that has elapsed between the inception of the ideas at the basis of the construction and the actual execution of the work. The fundamental lines on which the French gun, for example, was built were decided upon in 1894, so it may really be older than the German

German.
The question of calibre is still a disputed point, and although the French claim that 7.5 centimetres is preferable to 7.6 or 7.7 entimetres, that is a matter that can only

be settled by actual war experience.

In the comparison of weights above given the total weights of the system are considered; but it must be remembered considered; but it must be remembered that with a heavy piece the total weight may be considerably lowered by reducing number of rounds of ammunition car-in the lumber, and that is just what French have done. The weights of the pieces in battery are respectively 850, 1,200 1,100 kg. (1,870, 2,440 and 2,420 pounds), which is greatly in favor of the German gun, and was the main reason for its adop-

The weight given for the Russian gun refers to the Putilov piece, now in use in

Russia. The maximum allowable weight for a field piece has been stated by the military experts to be 950 kg. (2,000 pounds), and the German is the only one fulfilling this maximum allowable weight for condition: nevertheless, it is not in a modern sense a rapid-fire gun, because of its carriage. Its lightness, however, permits it to move rapidly from its position in column of march to the line of fire and to alter quickly its targets or its front.

A reaction is taking place in military alter quickly its targets or its front.

A reaction is taking place in military circles in regard to muzzle velocity, and it is worth noting that although French writers lay great stress on the fact that the Russian guns have 600 metre muzzle velocity, the French themselves, after numerous trials, have decided to reduce the muzzle velocity of their pieces to 500 metres. High muzzle velocity interferes with the construction of carriages of great stability, and after all are not of such great value at fighting ranges as appears at value at fighting ranges as appears at first sight. With a very high muzzle ve-locity the drop in velocity (owing to the relatively higher resistance of the air for the relatively higher resistance of the air for the higher velocities) is very great at first, so that the difference in striking velocity at fighting ranges, for any two different muzzle velocities, is not very great. Thus, at 3,000 yards (a good fighting range), lowering the muzzle velocity from 1,800 to 1,650 footseconds will make a difference in striking velocity of only about thirty foot-seconds, which will produce no perceptible change in the effect of shrapnel at that range. But the construction of a lighter and more stable carriage would be greatly facilitated by this reduction.

The French carriage has shields, but

by this reduction.

The French carriage has shields, but these add considerably to the weight, and after all protect only a few of the cannoneers; besides, they render the pieces more readily

visible to the enemy. The question of rapidity of fire is, of course, very important under certain circumstances, nevertheless many authoricircumstances, nevertheless many authorities have doubts as to its advantage beyond a certain point, on account of the danger of wasting ammunition and then possibly being without any at a critical moment. Indeed, the German drill regulations do not contemplate a very rapid rate, and believe more in accurate, carefully observed fire, than in simple rapid fire. Moreover, the Germans believe that the rapidity with which a battery comes into action and gets the upper hand of the enemy is the all-important point.

comes into action and gets the upper hand of the enemy is the all-important point. In the manœuvres French officers have themselves reported that "no piece of the reserve artillery opened fire within two minutes after entering the line."

These are the main differences in the types of field guns in use by the three military nations of Europe. The tests for the selection of a field piece now going on will not be restricted to mere ballistic tests; but the latter are to be supplemented by more practical field tests, the pieces to be sent out to the Light Artillery School at Fort Riley, Kansas, for use in the field.

The bowlers of the Tenth Assembly District Republican Club of Brooklyn will be begin a two-men team tournament to-morrow night.

Gells, of Hoboken Council, leads in the Hudson County Royal Areanum League tournament with an average of 179 2.5. an average of 179 2 5.

At a recent meeting of the United Bowling Clubs, the Clios and Freedoms' resignations were ac-

The roll off for the championship of the Friendship tournament of Brooklyn between the Prosperity and Fin Knight clubs will take place to-morrow night.

perity and Pin Knight clubs will take place tomorrow night.

The average of the leading bowlers in the Interciub League are as follows: Wilson, 178: Parker,
176: Dumble, 174. Safford, 174. Toussaint, 171:
Morgan, 170. Legien, 170. Olt, 169; W. Mulford, 169;
Townley, 169.

The committee appointed by the Joe Thum
Bowling Guard have nominated the following
members: For President, John H. Segelken,
Secretary, Louis Hambach, Treasurer, Justus H.
Garthe; Sergeant-at-Arms, B. Wolfoum; Marshals,
C. D. Rehm, G. Bechdol and G. Dethoff; Color
Bearers, O. Maier, P. Lehrbach and C. Quadt.
The Guard will hold an individual prize bowling
contest at the White Elephant alleys to-day.

A merry crowd of Arcanumites attended the
annual dinner and presentation of prizes of the
Brooklyn Royal Arcanum League on Saturday
night, President W. A. Lee acted as toastmaster,
and among those who took an active part in the
post-prandial exercises were John B. Foster,
Charles H. Ebbets and Thomas Curits, Lefferts

Brooklyn Boyal Arcanum League on Saturday night. President W. A. Lee acted as toastinaster, and among those who took an active part in the post prandal exercises were John B. Foster, Charles H. Ebbets and Thomas Curtis. Lefterts Council was presented with two championship trophies, a silver loving cup and a silk banner.

Secretary Ferres has notified the husbness Men Championship tournament officials that unless the competition is conducted on lines laid out by several of the Life insurface League bowiers, the latter organization would not be represented in the competition. Secretary Hoyt of the Business Men's tournament says that Ferres having promised to enter his bowiers who would able by any rules adopted by a majority of the delegates, the other six leagues would undoubtedly refuse to change the style of tourney to accommodate the Life Insurance men.

The averages of the twenty leading bowiers of the New York League tournament, which was recently completed, arast ollows. Beam, twelve games 194–38. Lehrhach twelve games, 1854. Voornels, twelve games, 187–12; Williamson, twelve games, 1886s; Remple, fourteen games, 1886s; Remple, 1986s; Remple, 1986s; Remple, fourteen games, 1886s; Remple, 1986s; Remple, fourteen games, 1886s; Rems, 1886s;

DRIFTING OVERSEA GARDENS.

What Is Seen Near Nassau Through Glass-Bottomed Hoat. From the Florida Times-Union and Citizen.

Nassau, N. P., Jan. 20.—The attractions Nassau have been increased by the arrival of a remarkable craft designed for use in visiting the sea gardens, which are among the most attractive natural beauties of the The boat is made with a glass bottom. The water about Nassau is so absolutely clear that if the slight ripple can be removed from the surface one can see the bottom as clearly as one can see the objects outside window. It is never any use telling those who have not visited Nassau this sort of thing, because they politely but firmly refuse to believe it. It is a simple statement of fact, however. When the surface is absolutely smooth, one can sit in a boat and find little difference looking up or down. The sea gardens cover quite a wide area, and are unortunately situated in a channel which can usually boast of many small waves. They were accidentally discovered many years ago, and since then have been an objective point with all tourists who visit the island. Seated

were accidentally discovered many years ago, and since then have been an objective point with all tourists who visit the island. Seated in a boat with a glass bottom of sufficient size to semove all the rippie from the surface it is possible to sail over what seems to be a triumph of landscape gardening on the part of Father Neptune. It is all, of course, his work. The strong current which so long hid the beauties of the spot has probably brought in this tremendous collection of marine flora. Certainly it seems as if every kind of sea fan and sea paim were to be found within the space of a square yard.

As in all coral formations, the bottom is full of holes. These little caverns are frequently of the most delicate tints. The prevailing colors of the growth at the bottom are yellow and purple, relieved by great patches of golden brown, and here and there are feathery growths of tail paims, which wave softly with the tide exactly as do their sisters on land in a gentle breeze. The sea ferns are made of coral, purple and yellow, and are just about the size of a paim leaf fan, standing up stiff and sturdy among the tailer and more graceful plants. The bottom is of that exquisite whitquess found only in coral formations, and dotted here and there are the great lazy beches de mer, or sea slugs, which are highly relished by the Chinese, but have not yet rept on to Nassau bilis of fare. Of course, everywhere is seaweed of that gorgeous golden brown shade, which becomes so faded and neutral when the delicate things are removed from the water. The sea fans and corals are made of sterner stuff, and retain much of their beauty, but divers are forbidden to disturb the beauties of the place. Everywhere through this singular marine park swim fishes of varied colors. There are gold fishes with purple spots, and purple fishes with gold spots, and red fishes and blue fishes, and fish that look as if the mermaids had been having a little fun with their paint boxes. The easiest way to describe these would be to pick out of the di

Canarsie Yacht Club Meeting.

Genuine enthusiasm was manifested at the annual meeting of the Canarsie Yacht Club, which was held Saturday. The reports of the various officers and committees showed over one hundred boats in the club's fleet and the first mortgage on the club's property. which had matured, was announced as paid in full. This leaves but a slight second mortgage, all held by club members, on the hand-some new plant and clubhouse at Sand's Point. It was decided to open the season on Memorial Day with a parade of the club on Memorial Day with a parade of the club fleet, inspection by the commodore and races in the afternoon. During the season the club will hold races each Saturday and holiday. The following officers were chosen for the year: Commodore, T. H. Northridge: Vice Commodore, George H. Matthaei; Secretary, Waiter W. Tamlyn; Financial Secretary, George E. Winters; Treasurer, J. K. Alexander; Measurer, Joseph T. Fletcher, Members of Board of Trustees—J. C. Heineman: Thomas M. Mannion, W. G. Herx, C. F. Kalkhaff, Charles J. Neilsen, Frank P. Mapes and Daniel J. Brinsley, Jr.

For the Burns Handicap.

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 9.-Following are the probable starters, with weights, for the Burns \$10,000 Handicap, which is to be run Burns \$10,000 Handicap, which is to be run next Saturday over the Oakland track; Au-tolight, 124; Watercure, 124; Vesuvian, 1.5; Articulate, 124; All Green, 112; The Fretter, 108; Constellator, 108; Sweet Tooth, 103; Diderot, 102; Corrigan, 100; San Nicholas, 100; Bathos, 100; Eonic, 98; Marshal Neil, 98; Bab, 98; Limelight, 90; Lady Sterling, 90.

Fred Clarke, the Pittsburg captain, took part in a game of hockey the other day and made a hit. The puck was lifted half the length of the rink and sailed toward Clarke who was in the middle of the ice. Habit was strong upon the Pirate chief and dropping his stick he leaped in the air and pulled the rubber down with his hands. For a moment he thought he had shut off a home run. The New York club has written to George Yeager, the catcher, asking him to name terms.

Gossip of the Ring.

M. N., New York—He was born in Canton, Ohio, n Jan. 8, 1872, and stands 6 feet, 2 inches.

on Jan. 8, 1872, and stands 6 feet, 2 inches.

Casper Leon has signed articles to box Alex Dunsheath at Baltimore on Feb. 12. The "go" is for twenty rounds.

Joe Martin, the champion welterweight of Canada has issued a sweeping den to box any man in the world weighing 147 pounds.

P. D., Brooklyn—The battle took place before the Lenox A. C., New York, on Jan. 10, 1899, and McCoy was knocked out in ten rounds.

Billy Ryan of Syracuse and Tommy Daly of Brooklyn, were matched on Saturday to box twenty rounds at New London to-morrow night.

Brooklyn were matched on Saturday to box twenty rounds at New London to-morrow night.

Two Deniver sports have discovered a puglilat in Eddie Toy, a Deniver featherweight, and are negotiating to bring Toy East and match him against any 126 pounder in the world. Toy is especially desirous of meeting Terry McGovern or Young Corbett.

Owen Feeney, Westport, Conn.—They met twice. Their first match was decided at the Broadway A. C., New York, in 1896, and Maher won in six rounds with a knockout. Their last mill was at chicage on Feb. 16, 1000. Choynski got the verdict in six rounds.

Al Neil of California and Mike Donovan, the Rochester welterweight, who fought a 20-round draw at Los Angeles the other light have been rematched. This will be their fourth meeting. The encounter is to be decided at Portland, Orc., within three weeks.

The 20 round bout between Rid Broad and Austin Rice, which was to have been held before the West End A. C. St. Louis, to-night has been declared off by President Haughton of that club. Tim Califahan of Philadelphis, has been substituted for Broad and will meet Rice for fitteen rounds on Feb. 13 at 126 pounds.

Jack McKenna, who handles the affairs of Abe Attell, the California featherweight, is authority for the statement that a match between Attell and Terry McGovern has already been made and that the battle will be held after McGovern's fight with Dave Sullivan on Feb. 22. It is understood that this scrap will take place at St. Louis.

Ching Fong, a Chinese boxer, who was taught most all he knows about the manly art by Tommy

that the battle will be beld after McGovern's fight with Dave Sullivan on Feb. 22. It is understood that this scrap will take place at St. Louis.

Ching Fong, a Chinese boxer, who was taught most all he knows about the manly art by Tommy Wilson, a Cheinnati pugilist, has issued a challenge to box any 112-pounder in the business. Ching says he can fight easily at 163 pounds, but that he has been compelled to give away weight as there are few pugilists in the business now who box at 165 pounds.

Tommy Ryan has signed to box Charlie Goff, Billy Madden's man, at Rossland, British Columbia. The "go" will be decided the first week in March. It will be for twenty rounds for a purse of \$2.000, \$500 of walch is to go to the loser. Ryan has also contracted to box Jack Reauschoile of Chicago before the Chicago A. C. In a six-round bout next Saturday night.

The promoters of pugilism at San Francisco have made a rule regarding fights in the future which are terminated by a foul blow. It is said that pugilists who lose in this manner or break any rule which has a tendency to make the encounter suspicious-looking will be deprived of their share of the purse. It is understood that this procedure will be adopted by every reputable club in America.

Now that boxing has been successfully revived at New Orleans, efforts will be made to clinch some important matches by the Southern A. C., which is the foremost athletic club in the Crescent City, just now. Jack Everhardt, the noted light weight, who returned from South Africa a few weeks ago, after winning several fights in that country, has been asked to box Barney Fuery of Cheinnati and has accepted. It is understood that the mill will take place next month.

BUTFALO, Feb. 9.—Tom Couning of Dunkirk, and Curley Supples of Buffalo, were this morning matched to flight twenly rounds for a purse and side bet of \$2.00 before the International A. C. of Fort Eric, on Feb. 17. They have agreed to meet at 138 pounds, ringside weight. This is the first bout to be held at Fort Eric since the

much transpires that finds its way to THE SUN'S Woman's Page first. This is one feature that makes THE SUN a desirable home paper.—Adu

BOSTON'S GUM-SHOE BRIGADE

A DENVER WOMAN LOOKS UPON INTELLECTUAL FEMININITY

And Wonders Why Devotion to Browning Should Break Out in Leggined Over

shoes, Bags and Unbecoming Soft Felt Hats-Explanations by an Old Lady BOSTON, Feb. 9 .- "The gum-shoe brigade here in Boston is something that certainly cannot be downed," said a Denver woman who is here with her husband, a mining

"The first afternoon we were here Jack took me out on Tremont street. I never saw such a procession in my born days I looked, and I said to Jack:

" 'There is a funeral of some sort, Jack.'

"He just whispered to me, 'Now don't talk, my dear, but keep looking.'
"But,' I said, 'there's a funeral, Jack

'Little woman,' he said, 'are you crazy? " 'I hope not, Jack, but oh, look at all these people. Why they are wearing mourning. Just see these black dresses, these black hats, and,oh, my! look at those gaiters and gum shoes and rubbers and goloshes and arctics and overshoes and storm boots and sneakers and Creedmores and, and'-

" 'Little woman,' said Jack, 'you must dry up. We'll get pinched first thing

I know there is.'

" 'What's that?' I asked.

" 'Arrested,' he said. " 'For what?' said I.

" 'For irreverence,' he said "Well, I couldn't see anything wrong in my just using my eyes if I wanted to and I kept on looking. Why, all the women and a good many of the men carried the

funniest looking handbags. "They weren't the little pretty leather reticules and chatelaine bags they used to affect a few years ago. No, sir; they

were real business-like old bags. "They were all of black cloth or gray ribbed stuff and bound with black or dark Russia leather. Some had them stuffed with packages and things, and they looked as if out foraging. Others didn't seem to have a thing in the bags, and apparently carried them just as if they were articles

of beauty and adornment. "Of course the nose glasses were there expected that. And the resolute, we'rethe-equal-of-any-man expression was truly impressive. But those hats and the gum

"Why, think of a whole streetful of women

decked out in men's soft felt hats with the crease and all. I had heard that they read Browning in Boston, of course, but you know, somehow I hadn't realized that almost the entire population of Boston consisted of women and that they all read Browning! Tremont street seemed to me to be little else than felt hats and intellectu-

to be little else than felt hats and intellectuality.

"Now, just why intellectuality demands overshoes that have leggins and reach nearly to the knees, I don't understand, but such is apparently the fact. My sisters here seem to have decided that overshoes must have leggins almost equal to those the men wear who cut logs up in the Wisconsin lumber regions.

"When we got back to the hotel, I noticed some women who were entering the corridor and there were the overshoes! Yes, sir, regular long-leggined kind.

"Well, these overshoes made such an impression on me that I couldn't keep the subject off my mind and I talked so much about it to Jack that he offered to take me to a Harvard professor and have the matter explained or else he was going to take me right back West for he hadn't supposed Boston was going to take so seriously with me.

"But I found a dear old lady here at the

seriously with me.
But I found a dear old lady here at the

But I found a dear old lady here at the hotel who gave me some points about overshoes and intellectuality. She says that when women become intellectual they naturally pay less attention to fripperies and foolish adornments and that those whom I saw on Tremont street were earnest women who had a purpose.

"Well, I just told her I didn't want to have a purpose then. If I've got to wear a felt hat, spectacles and that kind of overshoes and a handbag, I never could stand being intellectual. That's all there is to it.

being intellectual. That's all there is to it.

"But she said that as one came to understand the principles of the health reform movement one would realize that high-heeled shoes and thin soles were unnatural and insufficient. She said that broad, flat heels were so healthful.

"And homely,' I interjected.

"Well,' said the dear old soul, 'better have flat heels than that kind of a head.'

"Wasn't so bad, was it? Then I asked her wherein consisted the absolute necessity of everybody's wearing the lumbermen's goloshes, and she told me that all that was dictated by the enlightened regard for the perfect protection of health that prevailed particularly here in Boston. Isn't that a sentence for you?

"I asked about the hand bags, and she said that women here had decided it was just as proper for women to bringhome a load as for the old man. That was pretty good, too, don't you think? My, she was a great old lady!

"As for the felt hats, she declared that a women whose soul was full of Browning

woman whose soul was full of Browning didn't need ribbons and things on her hat. She said the woman was so full of soul that there couldn't be room for anything

"The old lady rather puzzled me. I couldn't make out whether she was in earn-

couldn't make out whether she was in earnest or not.

"Well, Jack was over on State street looking after business so much that I had a good deal of time to myself, and during an hour of idleness the other afternoon I just thought of a little scheme. I made up my mind I'd try and see how Jack would like to see me in an intellectual costume.

"So, for a lark, I went out to a department store on your Washington street and bought my outfit. I got a felt hat; oh, a regular old crow hat it was; a pair of eye glasses, a rusty old black hand bag and a pair of those leggin gaiters.

"When I reached our room I started to fix myself. It was getting near 3 o'clock and I knew he'd be in before long, so I had to hustle.

to hustle.
"I got on an old rainy-day suit of gray wool, "I got on an old rainy-day suit of gray wool, pugged my hair into a little knot, put on a felt hat and the overshoes, adjusted the eyeglasses and, with the handbag in my lap and a copy of Emerson in my hand. I sat down to wait for Jack.

"I didn't have to wait long. When the deer opened I was very intent on Emerson. But I got roused from my meditations, though."

There was a sort of reminiscent expressions.

There was a sort of reminiscent expres-

There was a sort of reminiscent expression upon the young woman's face which prompted the listener to ask what the redoubtable Jack said.

"Said." she repeated, "oh, my goodness, I couldn't tell you what he said. 'I was dreadful. He said real curse words. I wouldn't dare repeat just what he said.

"But I could see that my intellectuality business, in so far as my costume was concerned, didn't go with him for a cent. He

cerned, didn't go with him for a cent. He made me take off those traps in a hurry and he was so mad he threw the hat, eyeglasses hand-bag and the goloshes right out of the window.

hand-bag and the goloshes right of window.

"My, if I should ever try to lead this intellectual Boston life I should do without the costume that goes with it, for Jack's conduct that afternoon was anything but an encouragement toward spiritual development. I haven't dared say 'overshoes' to him sinc .

The fastest game played in Brooklyn so far this season was witnessed by a large crowd in the Forty-seventh Regiment Armory on Saturday night. The crack nine of the Forty-Field seventh Regiment played the Bergen Field Club for the second time this season. In their previous meeting the Forty-seventh Regiment boys were victorious. The score Regiment bo

Batteries-Gorman and Moran, Morgan, Madi-